



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**HAMILTON COUNTY WOMAN  
CHARGED IN ADOPTION SCHEME**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Timothy M. Morrison, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that VICTORIA FARAHAAN, 42, Carmel, Indiana, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for mail fraud and wire fraud, following an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The indictment alleges that FARAHAAN told six couples who were interested in adopting children that she had contacts in Russia and could use those contacts to bring Russian children to the United States for adoption. FARAHAAN met with the couples at a church located in Indianapolis in July 2005. She told the group that she would be traveling to Russia in the near future to bring the children to this country. The couples eventually paid a total of \$97,500 to FARAHAAN as fees for the adoptions. Over the next few months, the indictment alleges,

FARAHAN made numerous false representations to the group, frequently through email communications. FARAHAN told the group at various times from August through September 2005 that she was in Moscow, Germany, and Canada making efforts to get the children to the United States. The indictment alleges that a review of her passport and internet records show FARAHAN was never in those countries as she claimed. No adoptions were ever completed.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Christina McKee, who is prosecuting the case for the government, FARAHAN faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 20 years imprisonment on each of the seven counts and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000 on each of the seven counts. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis.

**The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.**

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